

From: LWillo1124@aol.com [mailto:LWillo1124@aol.com]

Sent: Tuesday, January 17, 2006 9:50 AM

To: rito.guerra@sen.ca.gov; craig.o'donnell@asm.ca.gov; mdelapa@yahoo.com; fgc@dfg.ca.gov; director@dfg.ca.gov; gaines@lifesci.ucsb.edu; manager@ci.pg.ca.us; Melissa Miller-Henson

Cc: exec@seaotters.org; dan@cortco.com; david05@1hope.org; daniel.davis@earthlink.net; SusanatPGLaw@aol.com; patachek@juno.com; mark.massara@sierraclub.org; ibmiller@comcast.net; rire@redshift.com; pearse@biology.ucsc.edu; Holly.Price@noaa.gov; rcalkins@monterey.herald.com; yscuba@californiadivers.com; lisaben@redshift.com; cdocean@earthlink.net; maria.daly@epochtimes.com; LWillo1124@aol.com

Subject: Fwd: Pacific Grove Marine Gardens Fish Refuge

FYI:

Since the Tidepool Coalition in Pacific Grove was left out of the 3rd MLPA central coast stakeholders group, we will continue to work with the public to preserve the integrity of the Pacific Grove Marine Gardens Fish Refuge, and achieve a designation as a State Marine Reserve for the entire refuge.

The Tidepool Coalition has worked for 7 years on behalf of the community of Pacific Grove to protect, preserve and ultimately restore the Pacific Grove Marine Gardens Fish Refuge to its former grandeur. A successful citywide Tidepool Preservation Initiative was achieved in June, 2000.

Now the MLPA Central Coast Stakeholders Group has 3 proposals, all of which include a piecemeal approach of splitting our refuge into smaller components. It doesn't make sense with different regulations and enforcement for our refuge, and doesn't follow Assembly Bill 993 where conservation is the primary goal, not satisfying consumptive stakeholders. The MLPA was proposed to be based on scientific evidence.

Why did MLPA stakeholders and DFG ignore expert advice of Dr. Steven Gaines, Santa Barbara that smaller reserves have less conservation benefits? In contrast, larger reserves provide more positive long term benefits for marine life. The people of Pacific Grove have shown their commitment to insuring the integrity of their refuge be kept intact as a "No Take" State Marine Reserve.

MLPA stakeholders and the public should understand that despite the demonstrated value of State Marine Reserves, "No Take Areas", only 14 of the 220,000 sq. miles of California coast, (6/1000ths of 1%) or are set aside for genuine "fully protected areas".

We would hope you would support the upcoming rally and protest demonstration against the MLPA proposals to split and piecemeal the Pacific Grove Marine Gardens Fish Refuge which is contrary to good science, contrary to A.B. 993 and contrary to the community's ultimate goal of protecting and preserving its refuge in its entirety.

Lee Willoughby
Tidepool Coalition